



# **CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**

## **COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** August 5, 2008

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Approval For Wastewater Collection Sewer System Management Plan

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council approve the Wastewater Collection Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) and authorize the Public Works Director, as the City's authorized representative, to file a Notice of Completion with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

### **DISCUSSION:**

On May 2, 2006, the SWRCB adopted Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements (GWDR) for publicly owned sanitary sewer systems. The GWDR requires the development and implementation of a system-specific local SSMP that documents a comprehensive program for sewer system operation, maintenance and repair (Attachment). Among other things, the SSMP must include a spill response plan that establishes standard procedures for immediate response to a sanitary sewer overflow in order to minimize water quality impacts and potential nuisance conditions.

The purpose of this SSMP is to establish a consistent and effective strategy and action plan to prevent and respond to sewer overflows.

The city proactively cleans the majority of its sewer system every 2 years and cleans sewers with a history of problems every 4, 6 or 12 months. Inverted siphons are cleaned every 6 months. Crews operate a closed-circuit television (CCTV) camera to inspect the wastewater collection system and investigate the causes of blockages that cause overflows. The CCTV is also used to identify compromised pipes to be replaced or repaired by the Capital Improvement Program. The City's goal is to inspect all of the wastewater collection system facilities every 14 years.

One of the city's sewer repair crews is dedicated to correct problems identified by the CCTV or sewer cleaning crews. The city also uses outside contractors to complete these repairs. Other crews respond to customer requests for service and emergencies. The city's goal is to respond to and resolve all wastewater collection system emergencies within two hours of being notified of the emergency condition.

Currently, the City has a comprehensive and progressive collection system maintenance program in place, nevertheless, the final SSMP document has been completed a full year ahead of the August 1, 2009 SWRCB deadline. The SSMP is now being submitted for Council approval, as required under the GWDR.

At their meeting of July 11, 2008, the Board of Water Commissioners voted 3/0 to recommend adoption of the SSMP.

**Audits and Recertification:**

Once Council approves this SSMP, the plan will need to undergo an internal audit by staff every two years, and will require recertification and approval by Council every five years. Staff plans to bring an updated SSMP back to Council for approval in August 2014.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Funding for the projects and programs documented in the SSMP were included in the Fiscal Year 2009 budget.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

The proactive maintenance and repair of the collection system prevents spills from the wastewater collection system, thereby reducing opportunities for contamination of local creeks and the ocean.

**ATTACHMENT:** The Wastewater Collection Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) and Appendices are available for review in the City Clerk's Office.

**PREPARED BY:** John Schoof, Acting Wastewater System Manager/MR/avb

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office